

July 10, 2006

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dennis Brendel, President  
Columbia Renewable Energy, LLC  
251 Sunnybank Rd  
Pasco, WA 99301

Dear Mr. Brendel:

**RE: Notice of Temporary State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST-9258  
for Columbia Ethanol Facility, Effective July 1, 2006**

Your application for State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST-9258 for Columbia Renewable Energy, LLC - Columbia Ethanol Facility, was received by this office on April 13, 2006. It was reviewed and accepted as complete on May 8, 2006.

A Public Notice of Application was published on May 16, and May 23, 2006, in the Tri-City Herald and the public comment period ended June 23, 2006, with no comments being received.

Given our limited resources, we are unable to process your application at this time. **RCW 90.48.200 states, "In the event of failure of the Department to act upon an application within sixty days after it has been filed, the applicant shall be deemed to have a temporary permit. Said permit shall authorize the applicant to discharge waste into waters of the State as requested in its application only until such time as the Department shall have taken action upon said application."**

Therefore, as RCW 90.48.200 and WAC 173-216-090 provide, your new Temporary Permit became effective **July 1, 2006**. It will remain in force for up to five years or until further notice by the Department, whichever occurs first. The Department will undertake writing a full permit as time allows. At that time we will contact you to discuss any changes in operation and to do a site visit.

**Your temporary permit consists of the permit application and all appendices submitted with it.** Compliance with the application and the appendices will constitute compliance with the temporary permit.

Dennis Brendel, President  
Columbia Renewable Energy, LLC  
July 10, 2006  
Page 2

This authorization does not allow you to discharge pollutants not specified in your application and attachments or in quantities exceeding those specified in your application or appendices, or in quantities exceeding those specified. You are also required to comply with all water pollution laws and regulations. A new application is required in five years.

Under the Model Toxics Control Act, codified as RCW 90.48.465, Ecology is required to recover the cost of the Water Quality Permit Program. Ecology has adopted a regulation (Chapter 173-224 WAC) establishing annual permit fees for all municipal/domestic and industrial wastewater discharge permit holders. Your Temporary Permit is subject to this fee.

Your permit fee is subject to the fee schedule in Chapter 173-224 WAC, Fee category: Facilities Not Otherwise Classified - Individual Permit Coverage; Subcategory: e. 100,000 - < 500,000 gpd. The year 2006 fee is \$23,109.00. Permit fee billing will be in a separate mailing from the Ecology Fee Unit. You may apply for the fee reduction due to no activity for 18 months. Please contact Bev Poston of our fee unit for instructions. She can be reached at (360) 407-6425.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact Rich Marcley, your permit manager at 509/457-7250.

Sincerely,

Denise E. Mills, LHG  
Section Manager  
Water Quality Program

c: Bev Poston, Ecology-Olympia  
Joe Ortiz, Ecology-Yakima  
Cindy Huwe, Ecology-Yakima  
Holly Cushman, Ecology-Yakima